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# The New Oxford Dictionary of English

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The Pharisees are mentioned only by Josephus and in the New Testament. Unlike the Sadducees, who tried to apply Mosaic law strictly, the Pharisees allowed some freedom of interpretation. Although in the Gospels they are represented as the chief opponents of Christ they seem to have been less hostile than the Sadducees to the nascent Church, with which they shared belief in the Resurrection.

**DERIVATIVES** **Pharisaic** /fari'seɪk/ adjective. **Pharisaical** adjective. **Pharisaism** /fari'seɪz(ə)m/ noun.

**ORIGIN** Old English *fariseus*, via ecclesiastical Latin from Greek *Pharisaios*, from Aramaic *ḥarīyā* 'separated ones' (related to Hebrew *ḥarāš* 'separated').

**pharmaceutical** /fɑːmə'sjuːtɪk(ə)/ adjective of or relating to medicinal drugs, or their preparation, use, or sale.

**PHARMACEUTICALS** a compound manufactured for use as a medicinal drug.

**PHARMACEUTICALS** shares in companies manufacturing medicinal drugs.

**DERIVATIVES** **pharmaceutically** adverb. **pharmaceutics** plural noun.

**ORIGIN** mid 17th cent.: via late Latin from Greek *pharmakeutikos* (from *pharmakeutēs* 'druggist', from *pharmakon* 'drug') + **-AL**.

**pharmacist** /fɑːmə'stɪk/ noun a person who is professionally qualified to prepare and dispense medicinal drugs.

**pharmaco-** /fɑːmə'kəʊ/ combining form relating to drugs: *pharmacogenetics*.

**ORIGIN** from Greek *pharmakon* 'drug, medicine'.

**pharmacodynamics** plural noun (treated as sing.) the branch of pharmacology concerned with the effects of drugs and the mechanism of their action.

**DERIVATIVES** **pharmacodynamic** adjective.

**pharmacogenetics** plural noun (treated as sing.) the branch of pharmacology concerned with the effect of genetic factors on reactions to drugs.

**pharmacognosy** /fɑːmə'kɒɡnəsi/ noun (rare noun) the branch of knowledge concerned with medicinal drugs obtained from plants or other natural sources.

**DERIVATIVES** **pharmacognosist** noun.

**ORIGIN** mid 19th cent.: from **PHARMACO-** 'of drugs' + *gnōsis* 'knowledge'.

**pharmacokinetics** plural noun (treated as sing.) the branch of pharmacology concerned with the movement of drugs within the body.

**DERIVATIVES** **pharmacokinetic** adjective.

**pharmacology** noun (mass noun) the branch of medicine concerned with the uses, effects, and modes of action of drugs.

**DERIVATIVES** **pharmacologic** adjective. **pharmacological** adjective. **pharmacologically** adverb. **pharmacologist** noun.

**ORIGIN** early 18th cent.: from modern Latin *pharmacologia*, from Greek *pharmakon* 'drug'.

**pharmacopoeia** /fɑːmə'kəʊpiə/ (US also **pharmacopeia**) noun a book, especially an official publication, containing a list of medicinal drugs with their effects and directions for their use.

**PHARMACOPOEIA** a stock of medicinal drugs.

**ORIGIN** early 17th cent.: modern Latin, from Greek *pharmakopoiia* 'art of preparing drugs', based on *pharmakon* 'drug' + *-poies* 'making'.

**pharmacotherapy** noun (mass noun) medical treatment by means of drugs.

**pharmacy** noun (pl. -ies) a shop or hospital dispensary where medicinal drugs are provided or sold.

**PHARMACY** (mass noun) the science or practice of the preparation and dispensing of medicinal drugs.

**ORIGIN** late Middle English (denoting the administration of drugs): from Old French *farmacie*, via medieval Latin from Greek *pharmakela* 'practice of the druggist', based on *pharmakon* 'drug'.

**Pharos** /fɑːrɒs/ a lighthouse, often considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World, erected by Ptolemy II (308-246 BC) in c.280 BC on the island of Pharos, off the coast of Alexandria.

**PHAROS** a lighthouse or a beacon to guide sailors.

**pharyngeal** /fə'riŋ(d)ʒiəl, /fə'riŋ'dʒiəl/ adjective of or relating to the pharynx.

**PHARYNGEAL** (of a speech sound) produced by articulating the root of the tongue with the pharynx, a feature of certain consonants in Arabic, for example.

**PHARYNGEAL** a pharyngeal consonant.

**ORIGIN** early 19th cent.: from modern Latin

*pharyngeus* (from Greek *pharynx*, *pharyng-* 'throat') + **-AL**.

**pharyngealize** /fə'riŋ(d)ʒəlaɪz/ (also **-ize**) verb (with obj.) Phonetics articulate (a speech sound) with constriction of the pharynx.

**DERIVATIVES** **pharyngealization** noun.

**pharyngitis** /fə'riŋ'dʒaɪtɪs/ noun (mass noun) Medicine inflammation of the pharynx, causing a sore throat.

**pharyngo-** /fə'riŋɡəʊ/ combining form of or relating to the pharynx: *pharyngotomy*.

**ORIGIN** from modern Latin *pharynx*, *pharyng-*.

**pharyngotomy** /fə'riŋ'ɡotəmi/ noun (pl. -ies) a surgical incision into the pharynx.

**pharynx** /fə'riŋks/ noun (pl. **pharynges** /fə'riŋ(d)ʒiːz/) Anatomy & Zoology the membrane-lined cavity behind the nose and mouth, connecting them to the oesophagus.

**PHARYNX** the part of the alimentary canal immediately behind the mouth in invertebrates.

**ORIGIN** late 17th cent.: modern Latin, from Greek *pharynx*, *pharyng-*.

**phascogale** /fə'skɒɡəli/ noun a small arboreal flesh- and nectar-eating Australian marsupial with a pointed snout, large eyes and ears, and a bushy tail.

**PHASCOGALE**, family Dasyuridae: two species.

**ORIGIN** modern Latin, from Greek *phaskōlos* 'purse' + *gailē* 'weasel'.

**phase** /feɪz/ noun 1 a distinct period or stage in a process of change or forming part of something's development: the final phases of the war | [as modifier] phase two of the development is in progress.

**PHASE** a stage in a person's psychological development, especially a period of temporary unhappiness or difficulty during adolescence or a particular stage during childhood: most of your fans are going through a phase. **PHASE** each of the aspects of the moon or a planet, according to the amount of its illumination, especially the new moon, the first quarter, the full moon, and the last quarter. **PHASE** each of the separate events in an evening competition.

**2** Zoology a genetic or seasonal variety of an animal's coloration.

**PHASE** a stage in the life cycle or annual cycle of an animal.

**3** Chemistry a distinct and homogeneous form of matter (i.e. a particular solid, liquid, or gas) separated by its surface from other forms.

**4** Physics the relationship in time between the successive states or cycles of an oscillating or repeating system (such as an alternating electric current or a light or sound wave) and either a fixed reference point or the states or cycles of another system with which it may or may not be in synchrony.

**PHASE** each of the electrical windings or connections of a polyphase machine or circuit.

**5** Linguistics (in systemic grammar) the relationship between a catenative verb and the verb that follows it, as in she hoped to succeed and I like swimming.

**PHASE** a structure containing two verbs in such a relationship.

**PHASE** (with obj.) (usu. **be phased**) 1 carry out (something) in gradual stages: the work is being phased over a number of years | [as adj. **phased**] a phased withdrawal of troops.

**PHASE** (phase something in/out) introduce into (or withdraw from) use in gradual stages: our armed forces policy was to be phased in over 10 years.

**2** Physics adjust the phase of (something), especially so as to synchronize it with something else.

**PHRASES** in (or out of) **phase** being or happening in (or out of) synchrony or harmony: the cabling work should be carried out in phase with the building work.

**ORIGIN** early 19th cent. (denoting each aspect of the moon): from French *phase*, based on Greek *phasis* 'appearance', from the base of *phattein* 'to show'.

**phase angle** noun Physics an angle representing a difference in phase, 360 degrees (2π radians) corresponding to one complete cycle.

**PHASE** the angle between the lines joining a given planet to the sun and to the earth.

**phase contrast** noun (mass noun) the technique in microscopy of introducing a phase difference between parts of the light supplied by the condenser so as to enhance the outlines of the sample, or the boundaries between parts differing in optical density.

**phase diagram** noun Chemistry a diagram representing the limits of stability of the phases in a chemical system at equilibrium respect to variables such as composition and temperature.

**phase-lock** verb (with obj.) Electronics fix frequency of (an oscillator or a laser) relative to a stable oscillator of lower frequency by a means that utilizes a correction signal derived from phase difference generated by any shift in frequency.

**phase modulation** noun (mass noun) variation of the phase of a radio or other wave means of carrying information such as an audio signal.

**phaser** noun 1 an instrument that alters a signal by phasing it.

**2** (in science fiction) a weapon that delivers a signal that can stun or annihilate.

**phase rule** noun Chemistry a rule relating possible numbers of phases, constituent degrees of freedom in a chemical system.

**phase shift** noun Physics a change in the phase of a wave.

**phase space** noun Physics a multidimensional space in which each axis corresponds to one coordinate required to specify the state of a physical system, all the coordinates being represented so that a point in the space corresponds to a state of the system.

**phase velocity** noun Physics the speed of propagation of a sine wave or a sinusoidal component of a complex wave, equal to the product of its wavelength and frequency.

**phasic** /feɪzɪk/ adjective of or relating to a phase or phases.

**PHASIC** Physiology characterized by occurrence in rather than continuously: phasic and tonic reflexes.

**phasing** noun (mass noun) the relationship between the timing of two or more events, or adjustment of this relationship: graphical tools were used to investigate the phasing of traffic lights.

**PHASING** the modification of the sound signal from an guitar or other electronic instrument by introducing a phase shift into either of two copies of it, recombining them.

**PHASING** the action of dividing a task or process into several stages: the phasing of the overall project.

**Phasmida** /fəzɪmɪdə/ 1 Entomology an order of insects that comprises the stick insects and leaf beetles. They have very long bodies that resemble leaves.

**2** Zoology a class of nematodes that include parasitic hookworms and roundworms. Also **SECCERNENTEA**.

**DERIVATIVES** **phasmid** noun & adjective.

**ORIGIN** modern Latin (plural), from Latin *'apparition'*, from Greek.

**phasor** /feɪzə/ noun Physics a line used to represent a complex electrical quantity as a vector.

**ORIGIN** 1940s: from **PHASE**, on the pattern of **phasor**.

**phat** /fæt/ adjective black slang excellent: a low with a really phat funk sound.

**ORIGIN** 1970s (originally used to describe a person in the sense 'sexy, attractive'): of uncertain origin.

**phatic** /fætɪk/ adjective denoting or relating to language used for general purposes of interaction, rather than to convey information or ask questions. Utterances such as hello, how are you, nice morning, isn't it? are phatic.

**ORIGIN** 1920s: from Greek *phatos* 'spoken', *phatikos* 'affirming'.

**PhD** abbreviation for Doctor of Philosophy.

**ORIGIN** from Latin *philosophiae doctor*.

**pheasant** noun a large long-tailed game bird native to Asia, the male of which typically has showy plumage.

**PHASANT** Family Phasianidae: several genera and many species, particularly the common pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*), which has been widely introduced for shooting.

**ORIGIN** Middle English: from Old French *faisan* Latin from Greek *phasianos* '(bird) of the name of a river in the Caucasus, from which the bird is said to have spread westwards.

**pheasantry** noun (pl. -ies) a place where pheasants are reared or kept.

**pheasant's eye** noun a plant of the bell

b but | d dog | f few | g get | h he | j yes | k cat | l leg | m man | n no | p pan | r red | s sit | t top | v voice | w we | z zoo | f she | 3 decision | 0 thin | 8 this | 9 ring | x loch | U chi